# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/865,458 | 05/29/2001 | Jin Soo Lee | LGE-007 | 3750 |

| 34610　　　7590　　　10/06/2005 | EXAMINER |
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| | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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| CHANTILLY, VA 20153 | 2173 | |

DATE MAILED: 10/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>11 July 2005</u>.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.     2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>10 and 17-20</u> is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>10 and 17-20</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>29 May 2001</u> is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some *  c) ☐ None of:

1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Arguments*

The Examiner acknowledges the Applicants' amendments to claims 10, 17, 18, and 20, in addition to the Applicants' cancellation of claims 1-9, 11-16, and 21. Regarding the pending claims, the Applicants argue that Sumita (U.S. Patent No. 6,581,207 to Sumita et al.) and Cannon (U.S. Patent No. 6,044,365 to Cannon et al.), presented in the previous Office Action, fail to teach each and every feature of the claims, as amended. The Examiner respectfully disagrees, for the reasons shown in the following rejection. The Applicants' arguments have thus been considered, but are not persuasive.

### *Specification*

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, requires the specification to be written in "full, clear, concise, and exact terms." The specification appears to be a literal translation into English from a foreign document and is replete with grammatical and idiomatic errors, thus rendering the specification unclear and non-exact. The specification should be revised carefully in order to comply with 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Examples of some unclear, inexact or verbose passages used in the specification are:

*In addition, content description information can be repeatedly shown in one data, and accordingly recognizing the same semantic information variously expressed as one information is very important.* (See page 6, lines 17-20).

*As described in the related art, all the user adaptive multimedia services reflecting user preference depend on a result of a matching user preference information and content description information of multimedia data.* (See page 13, lines 15-17).

### Claim Objections

Claims 10 and 19 are objected to because of the following informalities: In claim 10, the phrase, " a stored preference information table including identifiers and expression for object data," is considered grammatically incorrect. In claim 19, the phrase, "an item of the preference information table same as the each identifier corresponded to a representative expression," is similarly considered grammatically incorrect. Appropriate correction is required.

### Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular, there is no antecedent basis for "the direct information," which is recited in the claim.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 10, 17, 18, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over U.S. Patent No. 6,581,207, which is attributed to Sumita et al. (and hereafter referred to as

"Sumita"), and also over U.S. Patent No. 6,044,365, which is attributed to Cannon et al. (and

hereafter referred to as "Cannon"). In general, Sumita describes an "information filtering

system" for presenting multimedia programs to a user according to the user's personal tastes (see

column 1, line 59 – column 2, line 34). The user's taste in programs is maintained via a "user

profile," and is mapped against content description information in order to ascertain multimedia

programs of interest to the user (see column 2, lines 22-34). Specifically, an "information

filtering unit" performs this mapping (see column 2, lines 22-34). Thus Sumita describes, in a

user adaptive multimedia system reflecting user preference information extracted from user

history information, an apparatus, namely an information filtering unit, which is for mapping

data for an efficient matching between user preference information and content description

information.

Specifically regarding claim 10, Sumita describes a server system, called a "broadcasting

station," which is for transmitting an electronic program guide having information about

multimedia program data to be serviced to a user (for example, see column 4, lines 36-50).

Sumita also describes a client system, specifically an "information filtering unit," which maps

object data by receiving content description information transmitted from the server system,

namely the electronic program guide, and performs matching between the content description

information and user preference information extracted from user history information regarding

prior multimedia programs (see column 4, lines 36-67; and column 6, lines 22-56). Particularly,

the information filtering unit performs this mapping by using keywords maintained in the user's

profile to find relevant programs in the electronic program guide (see column 6, lines 22-56).

This information filtering unit thus obtains user preference information regarding programs

described in the received electronic program guide and reflects the gotten user preference

information to a multimedia system, specifically video equipment on the user's side (for

example, see column 4, lines 36-67). Sumita, however, does not explicitly disclose that the

server transmits to the client a table including identifiers and expressions for object data included

in content description information of multimedia data in which each expression has a

corresponding identifier and in which different expressions relating to the same object data are

assigned the same identifier, whereby as expressed in claim 10, a similar table already existing

on the client system is compared with this table.

Like Sumita, Cannon presents a system used to access and present multimedia data

according to a user's preference. Specifically, both Sumita and Cannon disclose that one or

more keywords are used to search for and identify multimedia content satisfying user preference

information (see column 6, lines 22-56 of Sumita; and column 2, lines 62-67 of Cannon).

Regarding this use of keywords to identify multimedia content, Cannon describes a problem,

stating that although various expressions usually identify the same multimedia content, only one

keyword is accepted to search for and access the multimedia content; meaning that the exact

keyword must be known to identify the content (see column 3, lines 33-65). Cannon remedies

this problem with a thesaurus file comprising a plurality of expressions, whereby each expression

in the thesaurus is linked to one or more "referent sets," and whereby each referent set is in turn

linked to a multimedia entity (see column 4, lines 39-65; and column 6, line 31 – column 7, line

49). A single referent set associates synonyms, metonyms, misspellings, and foreign language

equivalents into a single set identifying a multimedia data entity to be retrieved. One of a

plurality of possible expressions, each referring to the same content, is thus used to determine

and access the content. Specifically, in order to retrieve a multimedia entity, an expression

describing the entity is input and then found in the thesaurus, whereby the referent set or sets

comprising the word are ascertained, thus identifying the related multimedia entities (see column

7, line 65 – column 8, line 21). The thesaurus file is therefore understood to comprise an array of

expressions, and for each expression, a link or links ultimately identifying the multimedia entity

to which word is associated (for example, see figure 5; and its associated description in column

6, line 31 – column 7, line 49). It is understood that two expressions may comprise the same link

identifying the same multimedia entity. Consequently, this thesaurus file is considered a "table

including identifiers and expressions for object data included in content description information

of multimedia data in which each expression as a corresponding identifier and in.which different

expressions relating to the same object data are assigned the same identifier," like recited in the

claimed invention.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of

Sumita and Cannon before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the system taught

by Sumita such that the information filtering unit additionally receives a thesaurus file, like that

described by Cannon, the thesaurus file being used to reference programs in the electronic

program guide by keyword. It would have been advantageous to one of ordinary skill to utilize

such a combination because a thesaurus file provides for a more accurate determination of

media, given a keyword, as is taught by Cannon. Thus with this combination of Sumita and

Cannon, a thesaurus file is sent from a server to a client system. It is understood that a thesaurus

file already existing on the client system (i.e. the previous thesaurus file delivered) is necessarily

either overridden or augmented by the new thesaurus file, both being functionally equivalent. In

terms of being augmented, the two thesaurus files are necessarily compared and the previous

thesaurus file is updated to include new links, i.e. identifiers, for multimedia data not previously

included within the thesaurus file. In other words, the method taught by Sumita and Cannon

necessarily involves: providing, from a server to a client, a table, i.e. thesaurus file, including

identifiers and expressions for object data included in content description information of

multimedia data in which each expression has a corresponding identifier and in which different

expressions relating to the same object data are assigned the same identifier; comparing

identifiers of the provided table with a stored preference information table, i.e. thesaurus,

including identifiers and expressions for object data in which each expression has a

corresponding identifier and in which different expressions relating to the same object data are

assigned the same identifier; and updating the preference information table of the client if the

identifiers of the tables are different, as is recited in claim 10.

As per claim 17, the above-described combination of Sumita and Cannon teaches:

providing an object data expression information table, i.e. a thesaurus file, from a content

description information constructor, i.e. a server, to a preference information constructor, i.e. a

client, when the preference information constructor and the content description information

constructor do not jointly own an object data expression information table of the same content in

comparing and updating of content information between the preference information constructor

and the content description information constructor; and updating a preference information table,

i.e. an outdated thesaurus file, of the preference information constructor by using information of

the provided object data expression information table after comparing the preference information

table and the provided object data expression information table, wherein updating the preference

information table comprises updating the preference information table by the preference

information constructor by comparing the table provided from the content description

information constructor with the preference information table of the preference information

constructor, as is claimed.

Concerning claim 18, the above-described combination of Sumita and Cannon further

teaches: generating a table, i.e. a thesaurus file, including identifiers for expressing at least one

object data of the same content and various expressions by the identifiers by a content

information constructor, i.e. server; and providing the table generated from the content

information constructor to a preference information constructor, i.e. a client, as is claimed.

Concerning claim 19, the above-described combination of Sumita and Cannon further

teaches: generating a table, i.e. a thesaurus file, including identifiers for expressing at least one

object data of the same content and representative expressions by the identifiers by a content

information constructor, i.e. server; and providing the table generated from the content

information constructor to a preference information constructor, i.e. a client; and updating the

preference information table by mapping an item of the preference information table

corresponding to a representative expression of the table provided from the content description

information constructor by the preference information constructor, as is claimed.

As per claim 20, the above-described combination of Sumita and Cannon further teaches:

providing direct information stored in a content description information constructor, i.e.

information within a thesaurus file within a server, to a preference information constructor, i.e. a

client, as a lookup table format when the preference information constructor and the content

description information constructor do not jointly own an object data expression information

table of the same content in comparing and updating of content information of the preference

information constructor and the content description information constructor; transforming the

direct information of the lookup table into identifiers by comparing of content information of the

preference information constructor and the content description constructor; and updating a

preference information table by the preference information constructor after comparing

identifiers stored in the preference information table and the transformed identifiers, wherein the

preference information table includes the identifiers and expressions for object data in which

each expression has a corresponding identifier and in which different expressions relating to the

same object data are assigned the same identifier, as is claimed.
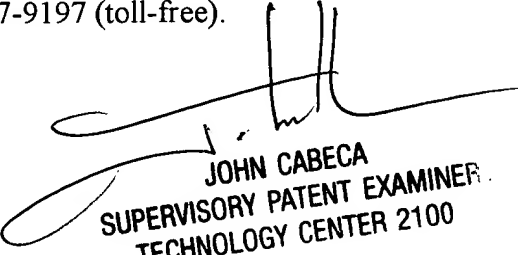
### Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Blaine Basom whose telephone number is (571) 272-4044. The

examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

btb

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